

COMPUTER AUTOMATED DEVELOPMENT OF AN ORTHODONTIC
TREATMENT PLAN AND APPLIANCE

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

- 5 [0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/686,190 (Attorney
Docket No. 018563-004810 - AT-00105.1), filed October 10, 2000, ^(Now Abandoned) which was a continuation
of U.S. Application No. 09/169,276 (Attorney Docket No. 18563-004800 - AT-00105), filed
October 8, 1998, (now abandoned), which is a continuation-in-part of PCT Application
No. ^{PCT/US98/12681} ~~US98/42681~~ (Attorney Docket No. 18563-000120PC - AT-00003PC), filed on June 19,
10 1998, which claimed priority from U.S. Patent Application No. 08/947,080 (Attorney Docket
No. 18563-000110 - AT-00002), filed on October 8, 1997, (now Patent No. 5,975,893),
which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/050,342 (Attorney Docket
No. 18563-000100 - AT-00001), filed on June 20, 1997, the full disclosures of which are
incorporated in this application by reference.
- 15 [0002] This application is related to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/169,036 (Attorney
Docket No. 18563-004900 - AT-00106), filed October 8, 1998 (now Patent No. 6,450,807)
and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/169,034 (Attorney Docket No. 18563-005000 - AT-
00107), filed October 8, 1998, (now Patent No. 6,471,511), both filed on October 8, 1998, the
full disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

20 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

- [0003] 1. Field of the Invention. The invention relates generally to the field of
orthodontics and, more particularly, to computer automated development of an orthodontic
treatment plan and appliance.
- 25 [0004] Repositioning teeth for aesthetic or other reasons is accomplished conventionally by
wearing what are commonly referred to as "braces." Braces comprise a variety of appliances
such as brackets, archwires, ligatures, and O-rings. Attaching the appliances to a patient's
teeth is a tedious and time consuming enterprise requiring many meetings with the treating
orthodontist. Consequently, conventional orthodontic treatment limits an orthodontist's
patient capacity and makes orthodontic treatment quite expensive.